



COUNT-THE-DOT CONTEST WINNER

Mrs. Vesta Howard, of 1931 West 236th St. in Torrance receives instructions on how to operate her new Adler sewing machine from Sulo Jansson, owner of Jansson's Sewing Machine Center. Mrs. Howard won the Count-the-dot contest that ended Sept. 28. All other contestants will receive gift certificates worth up to \$100.

Decentralization Is Answer to Recreation Problems in County

Faced with an approaching population of 6,000,000 persons in a 4,083 square mile area, Los Angeles County has just decentralized its administration of public recreation in order to provide better localized recreation service, it was disclosed today before the 39th National Recreation Congress in session at Long Beach.

City Auditions Entertainers On October 11

Due to the great number of entertainers who could not be heard at its regular summer talent auditions, the Los Angeles Bureau of Music will hold special fall auditions, for singers, dancers and other variety artists on October 11.

Auditions will be held from 10:30 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 11, in the auditorium of the Cahuenga Elementary School, 220 So. Hobart Blvd., at the corner of 2nd St. and Hobart.

However, it was stressed by sing supervisor Fred O. Swan that all applicants must register in advance by telephoning the Bureau of Music, MI-5211, ext. 2437, for a specific appointment time.

When the Bureau held its semi-annual auditions in July, more applicants requested auditions than could be heard at that time. The Oct. 11th auditions will provide these artists an opportunity to display their talents, as well as give other Los Angeles area entertainers a chance to be evaluated.

Auditions are limited to five minutes in length, and no act may include more than five persons. "Whole Family" type entertainment, is desired, since those selected will appear before city-sponsored community sings in all arts of Los Angeles, in which the audience ages range from tots to elder citizens.

Singers, dancers, instrumentalists, acrobats, baton-twirlers, monologists, clowns and many other types are welcomed on the community sing circuit. All of the artists donate their services, as the sings are open to the public without charge. However, Swan stressed, the sings provide a wonderful opportunity to gain experience, break in new routines, and to build up a personal following.

STAFF OF SEPULVEDA PRAISED

"Praise was given to Sepulveda Elementary school by the Superintendent of Torrance schools for the efforts of their teaching staff during the past year," Mr. Robert Dexter, principal, said before the school's first PTA meeting of the new fall season last Thursday.

An average of one new school every 5 months has been added to Torrance in the past eight years, bringing the total to 21 complete schools in the city, Mr. Dexter stated.

The Torrance Unified school district with a total of 800 teachers, he said, is rated as having the second largest personnel staff in the area.

Mr. Dexter introduced the following teachers who have been added to Sepulveda's teaching staff of 19: Mrs. Elizabeth Perrino, 6th and 7th grade, and Allan Barkley, instrumental music teacher.

During the business meeting, the group voted on the new

Divisions Established
County Parks and Recreation Director N. S. Johnson, speaking at the "Public Recreation Administration Institute", said his department has established division recreation offices in Arcadia, Bell Gardens, Lawndale, Newhall, West Hollywood, and Rivera.

Addressing public recreation executives from throughout the nation, Johnson followed the subject: "How to Provide a Recreation Service with the Neighborhood Touch."

Problem Acute
Johnson said that during the past year the problem of administering recreation for 321 Los Angeles County parks and school playgrounds from a central downtown Los Angeles office had become "acute".

"We found that with 'bigness' you lose the close personal relationship with the people in the community," Johnson said. "Patrons of the recreation program acquire the feeling that the central recreation office is no longer personally interested in their community recreation problems and that the main office is too far away."

"We learned that asking our patrons to contact our Los Angeles central office for their local program details was causing them too much trouble, and that they resented it."

"The principle of decentralization and its practice is not new, but perhaps the 'twists' we have given it are different."

"Under our decentralized plan, each division recreation director is charged with complete responsibility for providing and administering a comprehensive community recreation program within his geographical area."

"Our Senior Recreation Directors, working out of each of the six division offices, now assume 'face-to-face' supervision responsibilities for playground activity programs. None of the Senior Recreation Directors has more than a maximum of 22 park and school areas under his jurisdiction. He has no other major responsibilities."

"Initially, this delegation of responsibility for the recreation carry it out was a difficult problem to our staff. The change from a strong centralized plan of operation to a decentralized program required education and acceptance of all concerned."

"In keeping with the idea of a self-contained unit, the Division Recreation Directors are given complete administrative responsibility for their recreation program within their geographical service area."

"They are expected to act in the same manner as an administrator of recreation in a local community. They represent the department in recreation matters with school and city officials; coordinating councils; PTA councils; homeowners association.

time of 8 p.m. for all future PTA meetings.

A 45 cup percolator was given as a gift from the Seaside school to the Sepulveda PTA. Mrs. Ben Holden, president, announced.

Following the introduction of the faculty, the newly formed Mothersingers provided entertainment for the evening.

OPEN EVENINGS 'TIL MIDNIGHT & ALL DAY SUNDAY - PHONE OR. 7-2885

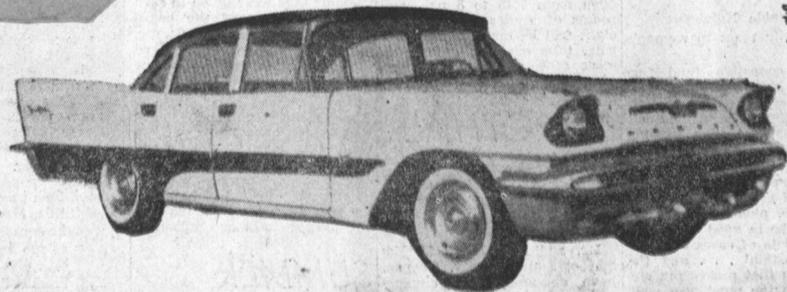
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